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TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 6701
INFO RUEHRC/DEPT OF AGRICULTURE WASHDC

UNCLAS LJUBLJANA 000229

SIPDIS

EEB/TPP/ABT FOR GARY CLEMENTS AND JACK BOBO, USDA/FAS FOR
CJACKSON AND MHOUSE, EUR/NCE FOR TOM YEAGER

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: ETRD EAGR EAID ECON TBIO SI

SUBJECT: AGRICULTURAL BIOTECHNOLOGY AS A TOOL TO FIGHT
HUNGER

REF: SECSTATE 53346

(U) On May 20 Emboff contacted the Slovene Ministry of Agriculture's Head of European Affairs Dr. Simona Rogl and the Head of the Food Safety Directorate Dr. Blaza Nahtigal and delivered reftel points. Dr. Nahtigal stated that the food crisis had not significantly impacted Slovenia since agriculture only comprises 2 percent of GDP and Slovenia has been able to import sufficient grains. Furthermore, Dr. Nahtigal went on to say that Slovenia has, in general, been opposed to biotech products, and did not expect the Slovene position to alter in the near future.

COLEMAN